

### Remarks on Amended Claims

Claims 2 and 15 are amended for clarity, to obviate any objections and to make clear that the claims cover a form layer that is printable, writable, markable or otherwise able to receive indicia application at any time. These amendments are not narrowing.

Claims 6 and 7 are amended for clarity and to obviate any form objections. These amendments are not narrowing.

The amendment to Claim 12 is made to eliminate the "mirror image" limitation and broaden the claim coverage.

#### Remarks on Original Claims 1-24

In the parent application all claims except claims 13, 19 and 20 were rejected in reliance on a prior art citation to U.S. Patent No. 5,662,976 to Popat. Both the First and Final Office Actions relied on the disclosure of Figures 4 and 7 in the Popat citation to support a 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of the claims as anticipated by Popat and a 35 U.S.C. §103 rejection of the claims as obvious over Popat. Popat can not stand as a prior art citation invalidating the present claims because the figures relied upon, Figures 4 and 7, are inaccurate.

All embodiments of Popat include a fourth, release coating layer. This layer is omitted from Figures 4 and 7. These simplified figures, while sufficiently accurate to illustrate the arrangement of die cuts to which they pertain, are not sufficiently accurate to support 102 or 103 rejections of the present invention. Popat can not anticipate the three-layer patch/adhesive/form structure of the present invention because Popat never possessed any three-layer structure. All Popat embodiments are in actuality four-layer structures comprised of a lamination layer/adhesive layer/release coating/backing sheet. Figures 10, 11 and 12 accurately illustrate this four-layer structure, the only structure possessed by Popat.

With regard to Popat Figure 4, the specification text accurately discloses the four-layer structure. It says,

"Assembly, 46 also contains a backing sheet, 60, having a surface for printing, 62, and a surface on the opposite side of the backing sheet, 64, which has a release coating." (See, Popat, column 6, lines 59-63.)

The specification corresponding to Figure 7 is silent as to the release coating. (See Popat, column 8, lines 13-27).

The specification elsewhere makes clear that all Popat embodiments include the fourth, release coating layer.

"There are three basic material components to the present invention: the lamination layer, 52, the adhesive layer, 58, and the backing or card layer, 60. The backing sheet preferably has a silicone release coating on one size [sic, side] thereof that facilitates peeling the lamination layer off of the backing sheet, as discussed above. Alternatively, fluorinated or amine-based release coating may be used, or any other desirable coating. The release coating is preferably formed of a conventional silicone material which has a negligible thickness on the order of a few ten-thousandths of an inch." (See Popat, column 8, lines 31-40.)

The reference to the backing sheet "preferably" having a silicone release coating is to differentiate a silicone coating from the amine-based coatings. All embodiments disclosed in Popat have some type of release coating. Figures 4 and 7 appear to have simply omitted the fourth layer simply to more clearly show the fold over and die cut arrangement disclosure in the specification which the figures illustrate.

The present invention omits release layers. It is one of the points of novelty of the present invention that a structure without release coatings may be recycled for ecological reasons. This is precisely because it has no release materials. See, Application, page 2, lines 11-12, discussing the prior art which "... cannot be recycled because it contains non-recyclable release materials." "Specifically, the present invention requires that only one laminae be adhered to the form and *it does not require the use of release material of any kind* whether in liner, layer or coating form. See, application, p. 4, lines 5-7.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all claims of the current application are patentably distinct from Popat and allowable over any and all prior art references.

### **Remarks Responding to the First Office Action**

Applicant continues to wholeheartedly endorse remarks made in response to the First Office Action. They are reproduced in their entirety here for the ease of the Examiner's reference. It is respectfully submitted that the arguments in these old remarks regarding Popat's fourth release coating layer, as illuminated by the foregoing revelation of Popat's true, four-layer structure, may be used to aid the Examiner in a claim by claim review of the present invention's patentable distinctions over Popat.

### **Original Remarks Regarding Popat**

Claims 1, 3, 11, 12, 14, 16 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Popat et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,662,976). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Popat et al. describe a laminated card assembly 46 which has a lamination layer 52, an adhesive layer 58 and a backing layer 60. Col. 6, lines 51-66. The lamination layer 52 is coated with a pressure sensitive adhesive layer 58 and the backing layer 60 has a surface for printing 62 and a surface 64 on the opposite side of the backing layer 60 which has a release coating. Col. 6, lines 61-67. The lamination layer 58 is die cut into a lamination strip 80 and is perforated along a center line 82 so that the lamination strip may be easily folded over a perforation line 82. Col. 7, lines 1-8. Die cuts 72, 74, 76 and 78 extend completely through lamination layer 52, but do not penetrate into backing layer 60. Col. 7, lines 17-19. Likewise, backing layer 60 is also die cut, with die cut lines 68, 69 and 70 passing through the backing layer 60, but not extending into the lamination layer 52. Col. 7, lines 19-23. The portion of

the lamination strip 80 defined by die cuts 72 and line of perforation 82 is somewhat wider than the corresponding card portion defined by die cuts 68 and 70. Col. 7, lines 9-11.

Popat et al. does not describe a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts that leaves behind material upon removal of the card from the form. Further, Popat et al. does not describe a form that is void of releasing agents allowing for recycling of the form. Further, Popat et al. does not describe a form wherein the first and second half of the patch or lamination layers 52 are mirror-images of each other.

Claim 1 recites "[a] form with integrated label comprising: a form layer...at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces within the periphery of the form layer, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut; a patch layer, having a periphery and top and bottom surfaces; a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion; the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising an integrated label; and wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the label is removed from the form, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer."

Claim 1 is not anticipated by Popat et al. Popat et al. does not describe a form with integrated label that includes a form layer having at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces within the periphery, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut, a patch layer having a periphery and top and bottom surfaces, a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive, wherein the bottom surface of the patch layer is adhesively but removably

secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion, the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising an integrated label and wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the label is removed from the form, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion exposed and staying adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer. Specifically, Popat et al. does not describe a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts. Further, Popat et al. does not describe a form that is void of releasing agents. Rather, Popat et al. describes an integrated form article that requires the use of a releasing agent that remains on the form after removal of the card, thus preventing the recycling of the form. Popat also requires a lamination or patch layer that is die cut and leaves behind some material upon removal of the card from the form. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 is not anticipated by Popat et al. and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 § 102(b).

Claim 3 is dependent upon independent claim 1 and therefore incorporates all of the limitations therein. Since it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Popat et al., claim 3 is likewise patentable over Popat et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 3 under 35 § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Claim 11 recites "[a] form with integrated label consisting essentially of: a form layer...at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces within the periphery of the form layer, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut; a patch layer, having a periphery and top and bottom surfaces; a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top

surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion; the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising an integrated label; and wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the label is removed from the form, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer."

Claim 11 is not anticipated by Popat et al. Popat et al. does not describe a form with integrated label that includes a form layer having at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces within the periphery of the form layer, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut, a patch layer having a periphery and top and bottom surfaces, a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising an integrated label and wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the label is removed from the form the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer. Specifically, Popat et al. does not describe a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts. Further, Popat et al. does not describe a form that is void of releasing agents. Rather, Popat et al. describes an integrated form article that requires the use of a releasing agent that remains on the form after removal of the card and a lamination or patch layer that is die cut and leaves behind some material upon removal of the card from the form, hampering the recycleability of the form. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 11

is not anticipated by Popat et al. and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 11 under 35 § 102(b).

Claim 12 recites "[a] form layer with integrated fold-over card intermediate comprising: a form layer...at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the periphery of the form layer defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut; a patch layer...a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion; the second half of the patch layer being a mirror image of the first half of the patch layer and the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer of neither the die cut nor the form layer portion; the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate; wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer; wherein once removed from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves of the patch layer."

Claim 12 is not anticipated by Popat et al. Popat et al. does not describe a form layer with integrated fold-over card intermediate that includes a form layer, at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the periphery of the form layer, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut, a patch layer, a layer of



repositionable, peelable adhesive, wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion, the second half of the patch layer being a mirror image of the first half of the patch layer and the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer over neither the die cut nor the form layer portion, the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate, wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer; wherein once removed from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second half of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves of the patch layer. Specifically, Popat et al. does not describe a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts. Further, Popat et al. does not describe a form that is void of releasing agents. Even further, Popat et al. does not describe an integrated fold-over card intermediate that includes a patch layer having two mirror-imaged halves wherein the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer is secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer over neither the die cut or the form layer portion.

Rather, Popat et al. describes an integrated form article that requires the use of a releasing agent that remains on the form after removal of the card and a lamination or patch layer 52 that is die cut and leaves behind some material upon removal of the card from the form, thereby hampering the recycleability of the form. Further, the invention of Popat et al.

discloses a lamination layer 52 that does not have mirror image halves. The portion of the lamination strip 80 defined by die cuts 72 and line of perforation 82 is somewhat wider than the corresponding card portion defined by die cuts 68 and 70. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 12 is not anticipated by Popat et al. and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 14 and 16 depend from independent claim 12 and therefore incorporate all of the limitations therein. Since it is submitted that claim 12 is patentable over Popat et al., claims 14 and 16 are likewise patentable over Popat et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Claim 24 recites "[a] form layer with integrated fold-over card intermediate consisting essentially of: a form layer...at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the periphery of the form layer defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut; a patch layer...a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion; the second half of the patch layer being a mirror image of the first half of the patch layer and the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer of neither the die cut nor the form layer portion; the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate; wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer; wherein once removed

from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second half of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves of the patch layer."

Claim 24 is not anticipated by Popat et al. Popat et al. does not describe a form layer with an integrated fold-over card intermediate that includes a form layer, at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the periphery of the form layer, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut, a patch layer, a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion, the second half of the patch layer being a mirror image of the first half of the patch layer and the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer of neither the die cut nor the form layer portion, the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate, wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer; wherein once removed from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second half of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves of the patch layer. Specifically, Popat et al. does not describe a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts. Further, Popat et al. do not describe a form that is void of releasing agents. Even further, Popat et al. do not describe an integrated fold-

over card intermediate that includes a patch layer having two mirror-imaged halves wherein the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer is secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer over neither the die cut or the form layer portion.

Rather, Popat et al. describes an integrated form article that requires the use of a releasing agent that remains on the form after removal of the card and a lamination or patch layer 52 that is die cut and leaves behind some material upon removal of the card from the form, thereby hampering the recycleability of the form. Further, the invention of Popat et al. discloses a lamination layer 52 that does not have mirror-imaged halves. The portion of the lamination strip 80 defined by die cuts 72 and line of perforation 82 is somewhat wider than the corresponding card portion defined by die cuts 68 and 70. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 24 is not anticipated by Popat et al. and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 2, 10, 15, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,204,706). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Popat et al. is described above. Blum et al. describes a multi-layer labeling system that has a transparent overlay, a label having an information surface and a pressure-sensitive marking means, producing marking of the information surface in response to applying pressure on an outside surface of the transparent overlay. Col. 1, lines 62-68. At least a portion of the undersurface of the removable separator sheet is "spot carbonized" or "inked," so that when marking pressure is applied to the outer surface of plastic overlay 19 a corresponding ink mark is produced on the information surface of label 17. Col. 3, lines 50-55. Blum et al. does not describe a form with integrated label wherein at least the top surface or the bottom surfaces of

the form layer are capable of accepting printable indicia thereon or contains printed indicia thereon.

Claim 1 is described above. Claim 1 is not anticipated by Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. Neither Popat et al. or Blum et al., alone or in combination, describe or suggest a form with integrated label that includes a form layer having at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces within the periphery, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut, a patch layer having a periphery and top and bottom surfaces, a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive wherein the bottom surface of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion, the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising an integrated label, wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the label is removed from the form, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer. Specifically, Popat et al. and Blum et al., alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts. Further, Popat et al. and Blum et al., alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest a form that is void of releasing agents. Rather, Popat et al. describe an integrated form article that requires the use of a releasing agent that remains on the form after removal of the card and a lamination or patch layer that is die cut and leaves behind some material upon removal of the card from the form, hampering recycleability of the form. Further, there is no motivation or suggestion for the combination of Popat et al. and Blum et al. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al.

Claims 2 and 10 are dependent from independent claim 1 and therefore incorporate all of the limitations therein. Since it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al., claims 2 and 10 are likewise patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 2 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Further, Claim 2 additionally recites a form with integrated label "wherein at least the top surface of the patch layer and the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer are capable of accepting printed indicia thereon." Neither Popat et al. or Blum et al., alone or in combination, describe or suggest a form integrated label wherein the top surface of the patch layer and the top and bottom surface of the form layer are capable of accepting printed indicia thereon. Rather, Blum et al. describe a labeling system in which a portion 23 of the undersurface of the removable separator sheet is spot carbonized so that when marking pressure is applied to the outer surface of the plastic overlay 19 a corresponding ink mark is produced. Nowhere is Blum et al. is it stated or suggested that the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer and the top surface of the patch layer are capable of accepting "printed indicia thereon." Therefore it is submitted that claim 2 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Also, Claim 10 additionally recites a form with integrated label "wherein at least the top surface of the form layer has printed indicia thereon." Neither Popat et al. or Blum et al., alone or in combination, describe or suggest a form integrated label wherein the top surface the form layer has "printed indicia thereon." Rather, Blum et al. describe a labeling system in which a portion 23 of the undersurface of the removable separator sheet is spot carbonized so

that when marking pressure is applied to the outer surface of the plastic overlay 19, a corresponding ink mark is produced. Nowhere is Blum et al. is it stated or suggested that the top surface of the form layer portion has "printed indicia thereon." Therefore it is submitted that claim 10 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claim 12 is recited above. Claim 12 is not obvious in view of Popat et al. over Blum et al. Popat et al. and Blum et al., alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest a form layer with an integrated fold-over card intermediate that includes a form layer having at least one die cut through the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer within the periphery of the form layer, defining at least one portion of the form layer within the die cut, a patch layer, a layer of repositionable, peelable adhesive, wherein the bottom surface of the first half of the patch layer is adhesively but removably secured to the top surface of the form layer over the entire die cut and the entire form layer portion, the second half of the patch layer being a mirror image of the first half of the patch layer and the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer being secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer of neither the die cut nor the form layer portion, the patch layer, adhesive layer and form layer portion comprising the fold-over card intermediate, wherein the adhesive layer has a greater affinity for the bottom surface of the patch layer than the top surface of the form layer such that when the fold-over card intermediate is removed from the form layer, the portion of the adhesive layer that is not between the patch layer and the form layer portion is exposed and stays adhered to the bottom surface of the patch layer; wherein once removed from the form layer, the fold-over card intermediate can be folded in half, thus securing the first half and second of the patch layer together by the adhesive layer and enclosing the form layer portion between the folded halves

of the patch layer. Specifically, Popat et al. and Blum et al., alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts. Further, Popat et al. and Blum et al., alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest a form that is void of releasing agents. Even further, Popat et al. and Blum et al., alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest an integrated fold-over card intermediate that includes a patch layer having two mirror-imaged halves wherein the bottom surface of the second half of the patch layer is secured to the top surface of the form layer by the adhesive layer over neither the die cut or the form layer portion. Rather, Popat et al. describe an integrated form article that requires the use of a releasing agent that remains on the form after removal of the card and a lamination or patch layer 52 that is die cut and leaves behind some material upon removal of the card from the form, thereby hampering the recycleability of the form. Further, the invention of Popat et al. discloses a lamination layer 52 that does not have mirror-imaged halves. The portion of the lamination strip 80 defined by die cuts 72 and line of perforation 82 is somewhat wider than the corresponding card portion defined by die cuts 68 and 70. Further, there is no motivation or suggestion for the combination of Popat et al. and Blum et al. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 12 is not unpatentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al.

Claims 15, 21 and 22 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 12 and therefore incorporate all of the limitations therein. Since it is submitted that claim 12 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al., claims 15, 21 and 22 are likewise patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a).



Claim 15 additionally recites a form with integrated fold-over card intermediate of claim 12 or 13 "wherein at least the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer and the top surface of the patch layer are capable of accepting printed indicia thereon." Neither Popat et al. nor Blum et al., alone or in combination, describe a form with integrated label wherein at least the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer are capable of accepting "printed indicia thereon." Rather, Blum et al. describe a labeling system in which a portion 23 of the undersurface of the removable separator sheet is spot carbonized so that when marking pressure is applied to the outer surface of the plastic overlay 19 a corresponding ink mark is produced. Nowhere in Blum et al. is it stated that the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer are capable of accepting "printed indicia thereon." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 15 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claim 21 additionally recites a form with integrated fold-over card intermediate of claim 12 "wherein at least the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer portion have printed indicia thereon." Neither Popat et al. or Blum et al., alone or in combination, describe or suggest a form with integrated label wherein the top and bottom surfaces the form layer have printed indicia thereon. Rather, Blum et al. describe a labeling system in which a portion 23 of the undersurface of the removable separator sheet is spot carbonized so that when marking pressure is applied to the outer surface of the plastic overlay 19, a corresponding ink mark is produced. Nowhere in Blum et al. is it stated that the top and bottom surfaces of the form layer have "printed indicia thereon." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 21 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claim 22 additionally recites a form with integrated fold-over card intermediate of claim 12 "wherein the top surface of the form layer portions have printed indicia thereon." Neither Popat et al. or Blum et al., alone or in combination, describe or suggest a form integrated label wherein the top surfaces of the form layer portions have printed indicia thereon. Rather, Blum et al. describe a labeling system in which a portion 23 of the undersurface of the removable separator sheet is spot carbonized so that when marking pressure is applied to the outer surface of the plastic overlay 19 a corresponding ink mark is produced. Nowhere in Blum et al. is it stated that the top surface of the form layer portions have "printed indicia thereon." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 22 is patentable over Popat et al. in view of Blum et al. and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 4-7, 9, 17, 18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Popat et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 is described above. Claim 1 is respectfully submitted to be patentable and nonobvious over Popat et al. for the aforementioned reasons.

Claims 4-7 and 9 depend from independent claim 1 and therefore incorporate all of the limitations therein. Since it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Popat et al., claims 4-7 and 9 are likewise patentable over Popat et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a).

Moreover, Claim 6 recites a form with integrated label wherein the patch layer is composed of an "opaque material and is sized and offset in relation to the die cut in the form layer such that the distance between an edge of the patch layer and a corresponding edge of the form layer portion is greater than that between the other corresponding edges, such that when

the label is removed, the adhesive layer exposed on the bottom side of the patch layer is wider along one edge of the patch layer than along the other edges." Nowhere in Popat et al. is a form wherein the patch layer is composed of an opaque material and is sized and offset in relation to the die cut in the form layer such that the distance between an edge of the patch layer and a corresponding edge of the form layer portion is greater than that between the other corresponding edges such that when the label is removed, the adhesive layer exposed on the bottom side of the patch layer is wider along one edge of the patch layer than along the other edges either described or suggested. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) be withdrawn.

Claim 12 is recited above. Claim 12 is respectfully submitted to be non-obvious and patentable over Popat et al. for the aforementioned reasons.

Claims 17, 18 and 23 depend from independent claim 12 and therefore incorporate all of the limitations therein. Since it is submitted that claim 12 is patentable over Popat et al., claims 17, 18 and 23 are likewise patentable over Popat et al. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 17, 18 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) be withdrawn.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Popat et al. in view of Stipek, Jr. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,914,483). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Popat et al. is described above. Stipek, Jr. describes a double die cut label wherein the die is part of a compound label die having an inner cutting portion 53 which also cuts the label stock to form the inner labels or configurations 33. Col. 2, lines 31-37. A backing sheet die 57 is positioned on the opposite side of the backing sheet 15 and cuts completely thorough this sheet. Col. 2, lines 37-40. The out periphery of the die 57 is located within the outer

periphery of the cutting die portion 51 and surrounds the outer periphery of the inner cutting die 53.

Claim 1 is described above. Claim 1 is respectfully submitted to be patentable and non-obvious over Popat et al. for the foregoing reasons. Additionally, neither Popat et al. or Stipek, alone or in combination describe or suggest a form that comprises a lamination or patch layer that is void of die cuts and releasing agents that allow for recycling of the form.

Claim 8 depends from independent claim 1 and therefore incorporates all of the limitations therein. Since it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Popat et al. claim 8 is likewise patentable. Further, there is no motivation for suggestion for the combination of Popat et al. and Stipek, Jr. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) be withdrawn.

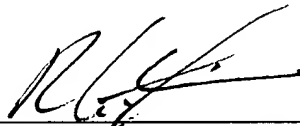
Claims 13, 19 and 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection.

Claims 13, 19 and 20 are all either directly or indirectly dependent on independent base claim 12 and therefore incorporate all of the limitations therein. In view of the above remarks, Applicant submits that claim 12 is patentable, not anticipated and non-obvious in view of Popat et al. and Blum et al. Accordingly, it is submitted that dependent claims 13, 19 and 20 are likewise patentable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claims 13, 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all rejections and objections have been overcome and that the application is condition for allowance. Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in St. Louis, Missouri by telephone at (314) 552-6000 should any

issues or concerns remain. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. C. Haldiman', is written over a horizontal line.

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